

HONORING ALBERT R. MORRIS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the achievements of Mr. Albert R. Morris, President of A.R. Morris Jewelers in Wilmington, DE. On behalf of the citizens of the First State, I would like to pay tribute to this outstanding individual, and extend to him our congratulations on being chosen as the 2004 recipient of the Small Business Council of America's Small Business Person of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, for over 40 years, A.R. Morris Jewelers has set the standard for business and civic leadership in Delaware. The Morris family's steadfast commitment to dependability, integrity, quality, and trust has cemented A.R. Morris' position at the pinnacle of small business in Delaware, and as this award indicates, throughout the nation. Based on an unwavering commitment to his community, Mr. Morris has proven that businesses can succeed, while still maintaining an individual relationship with their customers. Now, in A.R. Morris' second generation of family ownership, they continue to provide value and excellence in their craft.

It is with great pleasure that I offer the most heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Morris upon receipt of this award. His tireless diligence and dedication to work and family should serve as an example for all small businesses. Mr. Speaker, I commend Albert R. Morris for his exceptional leadership and I ask that we recognize the substantial contributions his family and business have made to the state of Delaware.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ASTHMA
AWARENESS DAY**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Allergy and Asthma Network for holding today's 7th annual Asthma Awareness Day and the Breath Freely Briefing to increase asthma awareness. I also want to thank my colleagues, Representative STEARNS, Chairman BARTON, Representative TUBBS-JONES, Representative ENGEL and Representative KENNEDY for their leadership on this issue.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 2023. I signed onto this bill because I understand the life-altering effects of asthma. As you know, asthma is the 6th ranking chronic condition in the United States and the leading serious chronic illness of children in the United States.

The African American community is disproportionately impacted by the effects of asthma. More than 3 million African Americans currently have asthma. We are three times more likely than the general population to be hospitalized for asthma. Sadly, African Americans constitute 26 percent of all asthma deaths. The fact that asthma can be managed with proper health care and appropriate medi-

cations, makes these deaths all the more tragic.

I hope that our efforts through this bill and as well as the attention that we can bring to this disease through Asthma Awareness Day education and outreach activities today and throughout the weekend at the Omni Shoreham Hotel will help us reduce the incidence of asthma and the fatality rate associated with it. With this kind of bi-partisan effort and supported at the state and local level, we can make sure that every asthma patient has a chance to breathe freely.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
RICHARD MICKA**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, Richard "Dick" Micka, on the occasion of his retirement from La-Z-Boy Corporation after 36 years of distinguished service.

A longtime Monroe County, Michigan resident, Dick graduated from Monroe Catholic Central High School in 1956. He then earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Detroit in 1960. That same year, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force. For nearly three of his seven years in the military, Dick served at Okinawa. He became a captain with the Medical Service Corps.

Dick began his career with La-Z-Boy's Monroe Headquarters in 1968 as Factory Payroll Supervisor. In 1970, he moved to inventory control, and then to the production-planning department in 1971. He was special projects manager from 1974 to 1979, working closely with the Fabric Processing Center. In this position, he was among the first to witness the company's computer-controlled system in Monroe, Michigan command a South Carolina factory machine to mechanically choose and pick up a fabric roll from the thousands on hand. In 1979, Dick was promoted to his current position. As Vice President of Administration, Dick has dealt with the assets, patents, trademarks, and administrative functions of La-Z-Boy, but he is certainly best known for his service as La-Z-Boy's community and civic affairs director.

Dick has faithfully served many community organizations, including the Monroe County Historical Commission, the United Way of Monroe County, and the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce.

He is also a noted conservationist. The Michigan United Conservation Club honored him with their Conservationist of the Year award in June 1974 for his efforts to save the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area in Monroe County, Michigan. He is still very actively involved in efforts to restore Lake Erie wetlands, clean the lake of environmental contamination and restore native habitats and species.

As Dick enters his retirement years, I would ask that my colleagues rise and join with me to wish him and his wife, Jeanne, a very happy, healthy, and relaxing future. I would also like to thank him for his dedicated service both to La-Z-Boy and the Monroe Community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALTA
CASSIETTO**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Alta Cassietto of Montrose, Colorado. Throughout her fulfilling life, Alta has fulfilled many roles with great success, including being appointed Telluride's first woman Postmaster. Her service, both in her career with the Postal Service and her community involvement, is certainly commendable and deserving of recognition by this body of Congress and nation.

Alta Cassietto was born in Cedaredge, Colorado in 1907. After traveling with her parents to their native Italy in 1908, the family returned to Telluride at the outbreak of the First World War. In 1927, as only a junior in high school, Alta began to work as a reporter for the Telluride Daily Journal. When economic conditions forced the paper to become a weekly in 1929, Alta became the editor, a position she held until 1934, when she became Telluride's first woman Postmaster, a position she held for thirty-six years until her retirement in 1970.

In 1975 Alta moved to Montrose to better care for her mother. She has remained very active in the community, volunteering at the Montrose Memorial Hospital and with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program. She has also pursued her love of traveling, having crossed both the Atlantic and Pacific ten times.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Alta Cassietto before this body of Congress and this nation. She is a truly great treasure for her Montrose community and the State of Colorado. I sincerely thank her for her service.

THE WOOL SUIT AND TEXTILE
TRADE EXTENSION ACT OF 2004**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleague from New York, LOUISE SLAUGHTER, introducing the "Wool Suit and Textile Trade Extension Act of 2004." This legislation extends and improves an existing program designed to equalize the trade treatment provided to domestic manufacturers of worsted wool suits.

Over the last decade a provision in our trade laws has had a devastating impact on the tailored clothing industry in the United States—reducing employment by half. This provision effectively created a suit export industry overnight in Canada and Mexico. Effectively, finished suits were able to enter our market duty-free, while our domestic producers were forced to contend with a tariff of more than 30 percent on the fine fabrics used in their production.

With a shrinking customer base the textile mills that once produced enormous amounts of worsted wool fabric reduced their fabric production. Competition for supply and prices paid to woolgrowers in turn were impacted negatively.

Our proposal builds on action taken by Congress in 2000 and 2002 to address this situation. Under the existing legislation, domestic